

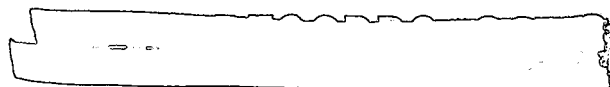


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IMAGERY
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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT



SEARCH FOR ATOMIC ENERGY CONSTRUCTION
NEAR CHANG-YEH, CHINA

Declass Review by NGA

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SEARCH FOR ATOMIC ENERGY CONSTRUCTION
NEAR CHANG-YEH, CHINA

SUMMARY

Extensive and rapid expansion of a mining and ore processing complex near Yung-ch'ang, China, suggests a high-priority activity, possibly associated with the Chinese atomic energy program. No other suspected AE activities were found within a 100-nautical mile radius of Chang-yeh, China.

INTRODUCTION

A search of recent photographic coverage in a 200 nautical mile (nm) diameter circle centering on Chang-yeh was made in an effort to identify the construction. The entire search area was covered by KH-4 satellite photography of good quality. Since all missions had scattered cloud conditions several had to be searched to insure complete surveillance of the area.

DISCUSSION

The search revealed that all construction projects in this area appear to have been abandoned or curtailed with the exception of a single major construction project which has been progressing at a rapid rate. This installation is located near the town of Yung-ch'ang on a spur of the Lan-chou to Urumchi Railroad, at 38-30N 102-12E. The installation is a mining and ore processing facility with an older section present since before [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (Figure 2) revealed that the installation had expanded since [REDACTED] and consisted essentially of a probable shaft mining area, an ore concentration plant, and housing areas. Most of the housing was composed of barracks such as are used for laborers; however a separate section is much better quality, multi-story, permanent housing.

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The installation was next covered on [redacted] (Figure 3) and an area of new, major construction could be seen. Open pipeline trenches, foundations, and a few new buildings were present in the new area (Figure 4); and the barracks-type housing, which was being expanded on [redacted] was being expanded further.

The most extensive changes were made between [redacted] (Figure 5). The previously seen area of new construction now contains 13 major buildings including one that is quite large. Two of the new buildings have stacks associated with them, and several excavations for new construction can be seen. A new rail spur has been constructed from the main spur to this new area which is probably an ore concentration plant also. Two rectangular basins, and a tank are under construction in the hills, and a number of new barracks have been completed.

Directly north of the previously identified shaft mining area is an area of new open pits which are being actively excavated. Three spoil piles are associated with this new mining activity. Security fences can be seen in several places, but no unusual security is evident for the overall installation.

The Yung-ch'ang Thermal Power Plant (Figure 6) is located approximately 15 nautical miles southwest of the mining and ore concentration plant at the intersection of the main railroad and the spur. This powerplant probably provides electric power for the installation, although the powerlines could not be seen on the available photography. A railroad yard and large housing area are associated with the powerplant.

TOP SECRET

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FIGURE 2
YUNG-CH'ANG MINING AND ORE CONCENTRATION COMPLEX
CHINA
38-30N 102-12E

MINING AREA

ORE CONCENTRATION PLANT

BARRACKS UNDER
CONSTRUCTION

MULTISTORY HOUSING

TOP SECRET

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NEW CONSTRUCTION

BARRACKS UNDER
CONSTRUCTION

FIGURE 3

YUNG-CH'ANG MINING AND ORE CONCENTRATION COMPLEX
CHINA

38-30N 102-12E

20X ENLARGEMENT

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TOP SECRET

25

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FIGURE 4

YUNG-CH'ANG MINING AND ORE CONCENTRATION COMPLEX
CHINA
38-30N 102-12E
NEW CONSTRUCTION

FOUNDATIONS

OPEN PIPELINE TRENCHES

40X ENLARGEMENT

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LARGE BUILDING

NEW RAILROAD
SPUR

SPOIL PILES

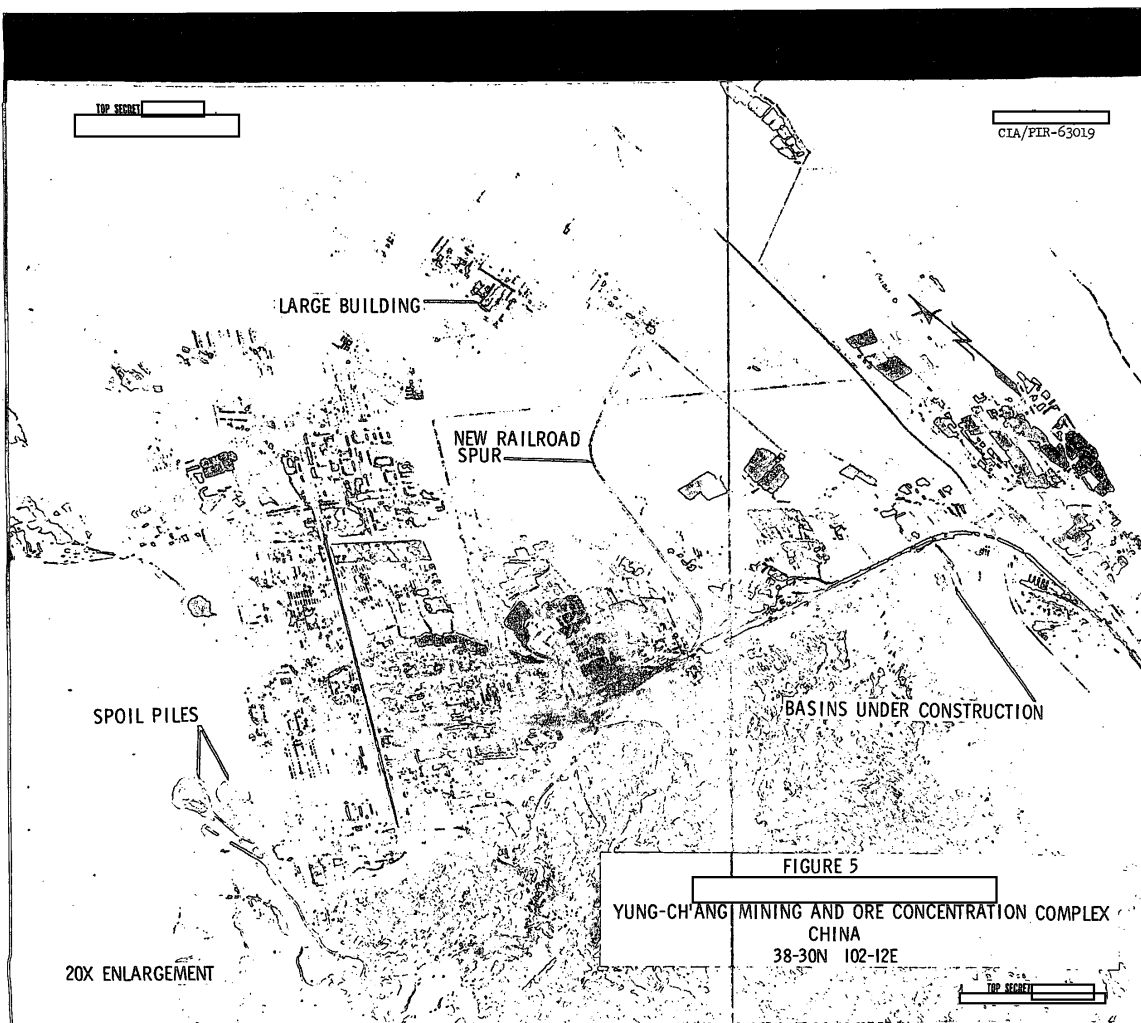
BASINS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

FIGURE 5

YUNG-CH'ANG MINING AND ORE CONCENTRATION COMPLEX
CHINA
38-30N 102-12E

20X ENLARGEMENT

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FIGURE 6

YUNG-CH'ANG THERMAL POWER PLANT
38-17N 102-05E

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REFERENCES

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DOCUMENTS

1 [] Daily Summary 273-65, 30 September 1965 (TOP SECRET []

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